

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A parachute comprising:

a plurality of first strips of fabric adapted to define a pattern wherein the first strips are separated from each other and extend parallel to each other;

a plurality of second strips of fabric adapted to further define the pattern wherein the second strips are separated from each other and extend parallel to each other and normal to the first strips, the number of the second strips being equal to the number of the first strips;

said first and second strips crossing each other at center portions thereof and thereby defining vent holes, said first and second strips and vent holes being arranged for providing an opening of the parachute with low opening shock, and providing drag for a rate of descent; and

ends of said strips being connected to suspension lines extendible to a confluence area.

Claim 2. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 1 wherein the fabric exhibits a tear resistance greater than 30 pounds.

Claim 3. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 2 wherein the fabric exhibits a tear resistance greater than 40 pounds.

Claim 4. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 3 wherein the fabric comprises polypropylene with a tear resistance of 40-65 lbs.

Claim 5. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 1 wherein each of said strips in plan view is generally rectangularly shaped, less said ends of said strips connected to the suspension lines.

Claim 6. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 5 wherein said strips are sewn to each other where said first strips cross said second strips.

Claim 7. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 6 wherein said strips define a canopy devoid of reinforcing lines and tapes and devoid of sewing other than where said strips are sewn to each other.

Claim 8. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 1 wherein said pluralities of strips each comprise 2-5 strips.

Claim 9. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 8 wherein said pluralities of strips each comprise three strips so as to define four vent holes.

Claim 10. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 9 wherein each of said strips is about 3 feet wide and about 51 feet long.

Claim 11. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 8 wherein said pluralities of strips each comprise 5 strips and each of said strips is about 5 feet wide and about 90 feet long.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) The parachute in accordance with claim 1 wherein the suspension lines comprise ropes, each suspension line being tied to said ends an end of a said strips strip.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) The parachute in accordance with claim 12 wherein one suspension line is tied to each strip, and said suspension ropes rope and said ends end of said strips strip are tied together by a self-tightening knots knot that extends around gather fabric at the strip end.

Claim 14. (Original) The parachute in accordance with claim 1 wherein the confluence area comprises load spreaders and D-rings, and wherein the suspension lines extend from the strip ends, through said load spreaders, and are attached to said D-rings which, in turn, support an article of cargo.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) A method for making a parachute, the method comprising the steps of:

arranging a plurality of first strips of high tear resistant material extending parallel to each other and spaced from each other;

arranging a plurality of second strips of the material extending parallel to each other and spaced from each other, and extending normal to the first strips, with central portions of the first and second strips extending across each other;

attachably fixing the first and second strips together where the first and second strips extend across each other;

wherein the first and second strips are of equal width and equal length and the spacings thereof define vents, said first and second strips and vents being arranged for

providing an opening of the parachute with low opening shock, and providing drag for a rate of descent; and

fixing a suspension ~~line~~ lines to ~~each free end~~ ends of each ~~strip~~ said strips, the suspension ~~line~~ lines being extendible to a common confluence area; and wherein the fixing of the suspension lines to the ends of the strips comprises tying the suspension lines and the strip-free ends of the strips together with self-tightening knots.

Claim 16. (Canceled)

Claim 17. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein the fixing together of the first and second strips comprises stitching the first and second strips together.

Claim 18. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein the high tear resistant material is woven polypropylene.